



**Fort Bend County
Historical
Commission**

Chris Godbold, Chairman
Charles Kelly, Vice Chairman
Claire Rogers, Secretary
Don Brady, Treasurer

Special Called Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2019

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Kelly called to order the specially called meeting of the Fort Bend County Historical Commission at 2:00 p.m. on February 6, 2019 at the Gus George Academy in Richmond, (Fort Bend) Texas.

II. Attendance

The following members signed in: R.H. Anderson, Bettye Anhaizer, Jessica Avery, Tzotsy Ballesteros, Philip Bartholomew, Ferrel Bonner, Don Brady, Frank Briscoe, Linda Burks, Nicholas P. Cox, Bettegene Coyle, Robert Crosser, Tim Cumings, Ron Drachtenberg, Ana Alicia Estrada, Sha'Terra Fairley-Johnson, Becky Gallimore, Chris Godbold, Bruce Grethen, Rebecca Haas, Sharon Harris, Marie-Theresa Hernandez, Tracy Hobdy, Jeffrey Hoffman, Charles Kelly, LeRoy Knekow, Joyce Lolley, Jesse Matthews, Paul Matthews, Bobby McKinney, Lonnie Meadows, Veronica Pina, Claire Rogers, David Rose, Jay Roussel, Daniel Sample, Shereen Sampson, Melanie Perkins Smith, Joe Southern, Jess Stuart, Roberta Terrell, Sylvia Vacek, John Walker, Diane Ware, Dianne Wilson and Linda Wooten.

Guests included: Bob Gaffney, Margo Pasko, Sam Collins, Reginald Moore, Naomi Carter, Michelle Morris, Reign Clark, Veronica Sopher, David McNally, Liz Peterson, Dottie Allen, Barbara Jones, Lump Mayberry, Diana Waters, Jonathan Brush, Rob Scamardo, Morgan Jerkins, Carol Cummings, Bolton Doggett, and Nabila Mansoor.

III. Election of Officers of the County Historical Commission for its 2019-2020 term

Chairman Chuck Kelly introduced Tim Cumings, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to present the slate of officers:

Chairman: Chris Godbold

Vice Chair: Chuck Kelly

Secretary: Claire Rogers

Treasurer: Don Brady

With no other nominations from the floor, Jeff Hoffman made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented and to vote on them as a whole, Lonnie Meadows seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Chuck Kelly then handed the gavel over to Chris Godbold to conduct the rest of the meeting.

IV. Receive Public Comments regarding Cause No. 18-DCV-251366 – In Re: Abandoned and Unverified Historical Cemetery located on that certain parcel of land owned by the Fort Bend Independent School District

Chairman Chris Godbold presented the rules under which speakers would be allowed to address the commission. These rules were taken from those used by the Fort Bend County Commissioners' Court. Captain Paul Matthews made a motion to accept the rules for use in this meeting and Ferrel Bonner seconded, the vote was unanimous.

Speakers were allowed three minutes each – Dianne Wilson was the time recorder. The order of speakers:

- Samuel Collins III, on board for National Trust for Preservation
- Reginald Moore, Convict Labor Leasing Project
- Liz Peterson
- Michelle Morris
- Reign Clark, Goshawk Environmental Consulting
- Veronica Sopher, FBISD
- David McNally, Cullen Distinguished Professor of History at University of Houston
- Barbara Jones, CLLP
- Naomi Carrier, educator, historian and actor

V. Meet in Closed Session to deliberate the following matters as authorized by the Texas Government Code § 551.071. Consultation with Attorney – Seek advice about pending or contemplated litigation in regards to Cause No. 18-DCV-251366 – In Re: Abandoned and Unverified Historical Cemetery located on that certain parcel of land owned by the FBISD

The commission went into closed session at 2:40pm. The visitors removed to another room in the building while the historical commissioners met in consultation with Michelle Turner, representative of the FBC Attorney's Office.

VI. Reconvene Open Session and consider taking action on the following matters: Cause No. 18-DCV-251366 – In Re: Abandoned and Unverified Historical Cemetery located on that certain parcel of land owned by the FBISD

The commission reconvened open session and all visitors were called back to the meeting room. Chair Chris Godbold welcomed the visitors and called the session to order at 4:08 p.m. Commissioner Jeff Hoffman made the following motion:

Recommend opposition to the removal of the cemetery dedication and request authorization from the FBC Commissioners' Court for the FBC Historical Commission to intervene in the lawsuit filed by FBISD for that purpose.

Robert Crosser seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and a vote was taken by a show of hands. All historical commissioners present (the list above minus two commissioners who had to leave before the vote: Shereen Sampson and Bruce Grethen) voted in approval and the motion carried.

VII. Announcements

- a) County Historical Commission will meet next on February 19, 2019 for the 1st Quarter General Meeting.
- b) The Commission's Executive Committee will meet on February 11, March 11, April 8 and May13.

VIII. Adjournment

Jeff Hoffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sha'Terra Fairley-Johnson. After a unanimous vote of approval, Chairman Chris Godbold adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

Submitted by

Claire Rogers, Secretary